

YUKON-NORTHERN AREA

The Yukon-Northern Area includes all waters of Alaska between the latitude of Point Romanof and the latitude of the westernmost point of the Naskonat Peninsula, including those draining into the Bering Sea, and all waters of Alaska north of the latitude of the westernmost tip of Point Hope and west of 141° W. Longitude (including those waters draining into the Arctic Ocean and Chukchi Sea).

These regulations apply on waters within or adjacent to the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, Innoko National Wildlife Refuge, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge, Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge, Nowitna National Wildlife Refuge, Denali National Park and Preserve, White Mountains National Recreation Area, Steese National Conservation Area, Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, Fortymile Wild and Scenic River, Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge, and Wrangell-Elias National Park and Preserve. Lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management are open to fishing only on non-navigable waters. [See maps 3, 4, 5 on pages 15-17.]

CUSTOMARY AND TRADITIONAL USE DETERMINATIONS		
Area	Species	Determination
Yukon River drainage	Salmon, other than fall chum salmon	Residents of the Yukon River drainage, including the community of Stebbins.
	Fall chum salmon	Residents of the Yukon River drainage, including the communities of Chevak, Hooper Bay, Stebbins, and Scammon Bay.
	Freshwater fish species (other than salmon), including sheefish, whitefish, lamprey, burbot, sucker, grayling, pike, char, and blackfish	Residents of the Yukon-Northern Area.
Remainder of the Yukon-Northern Area	All fish	Residents of the Yukon-Northern Area, except for those domiciled in Prudhoe Bay-Deadhorse complex and the residents of the Yukon River drainage.

Special Provisions:

NO SUBSISTENCE FISHING PERMIT REQUIRED. You may take fish for subsistence purposes without a subsistence fishing permit at any time, except in the following locations where subsistence fishing permits are required. Only one subsistence fishing permit will be issued to each household per year.

- Yukon River Drainage. From the mouth of Hess Creek to the mouth of the Dall River; and from the upstream mouth of 22 Mile Slough to the U.S.-Canada border;
- Tanana River Drainage. Above the mouth of the Wood River, only for salmon.

Unless otherwise restricted, you may take salmon for subsistence purposes without a subsistence fishing permit.

In Districts 1, 2, and 3, you may not possess chinook salmon taken for subsistence purposes unless the dorsal fin has been removed immediately after landing. (See *Fin Identification*, page 5)

Dog Food. In the Yukon River, chinook salmon must be used primarily for human consumption, and may not be targeted for dog food. Dried chinook salmon may not be used for dog food anywhere in the Yukon River drainage. Whole fish unfit for human consumption (due to disease,

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deterioration, deformities), scraps, and small fish (16 inches or less) may be fed to dogs. Whole chinook salmon caught incidentally during a subsistence chum fishery may only be fed to dogs in the following time periods and locations:

- Koyukuk River Drainage. After July 10, whole chinook salmon caught incidentally during a subsistence chum fishery may be fed to dogs; and
- Subdistrict 5-D upstream of Circle City. After August 10, whole chinook salmon caught incidentally during a subsistence chum fishery may be fed to dogs.

Regulations:

For the Yukon River drainage, Federal subsistence fishing schedules, openings, closings and fishing methods are the same as those issued for the subsistence taking of fish under Alaska Statutes (AS 16.05.060) unless superseded by a Federal Special Action.

You may take salmon for subsistence purposes in the Yukon-Northern Area at any time, unless otherwise restricted in these regulations or by emergency action. You may subsistence fish for salmon with rod and reel in the Yukon River drainage 24 hours per day, 7 days per week unless specifically restricted below.

The following locations are closed to subsistence fishing:

- Drainages north of the main Yukon River – Kanuti River upstream from a point five miles downstream of the State highway crossing; Bonanza Creek; Jim River (including Prospect and Douglas Creeks);
- Delta River
- Toklat River drainage (from August 15-May 15)

Subsistence fishing restrictions for grayling in the Beaver Creek Drainage of the Yukon-Northern area include:

- Mouth of Nome Creek downstream to the confluence of O'Brien Creek, the daily subsistence harvest and possession limit is five grayling.
- Mouth of O'Brien Creek downstream to the confluence of Moose Creek, the daily subsistence harvest and possession limit is 10 grayling.
- Nome Creek drainage of Beaver Creek is closed to subsistence fishing for grayling.

Fishing Periods:

Subsistence salmon fishing periods vary by location and State commercial salmon fishing periods. They may also be restricted by emergency action. Read the following carefully. In the following locations, you may take salmon during the open weekly fishing periods of the State commercial salmon fishing season. Subsistence salmon fishing is closed at these locations for 24 hours before the opening of the State commercial fishing season:

- District 4 (excluding the Koyukuk River drainage).
- Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C from June 15-September 30, you may take salmon for subsistence from 6:00 p.m. Sunday until 6:00 p.m. Tuesday and from 6:00 p.m. Wednesday until 6:00 p.m. Friday.
- District 6 (excluding the Kantishna River drainage), you may only take salmon for subsistence from 6:00 p.m. Friday until 6:00 p.m. Wednesday.

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REGULATIONS-Fishing Periods (continued):

During any State commercial salmon fishing season closure of more than five days in duration, subsistence salmon fishing is also closed in the following districts:

- District 4 (excluding the Koyukuk River drainage) from 6:00 p.m. Friday until 6:00 p.m. Sunday.
- District 5 (excluding the Tozitna River drainage and Subdistrict 5-D) from 6:00 p.m. Sunday until 6:00 p.m. Tuesday.

You may take salmon in the following locations for subsistence purposes only during the 24 hours immediately before the State commercial fishing season opening.

- Districts 1, 2, 3, Subdistrict 4-A (excluding the Koyukuk and Innoko River drainages).
In Districts 1, 2, and 3: Before July 15 after the opening of the State commercial salmon fishing season, subsistence salmon fishing is closed for 18 hours immediately before, during, and for 12 hours after each State commercial salmon fishing period. After July 15, subsistence salmon fishing is closed (except for chinook salmon) for 12 hours after each State commercial salmon fishing period.
In Subdistrict 4-A after the State commercial salmon fishing season opens, you may not subsistence fish for salmon for 12 hours immediately before, during, and for 12 hours after each State commercial salmon fishing period. However, you may subsistence fish (using drift gillnets only) for chinook salmon during the State commercial fishing season from 6:00 p.m. Sunday until 6:00 p.m. Tuesday; and from 6:00 p.m. Wednesday until 6:00 p.m. Friday.
In Subdistrict 4-A, you may take chinook salmon upstream and downstream from the mouth of Stink Creek, by drift gillnets less than 150 feet long from June 10-July 14, and chum salmon upstream from the mouth of Stink Creek by drift gillnets after August 2.

Gear Restrictions:

You may take salmon only by gillnets, beach seines, fish wheel, or rod and reel, except where noted below.

You may take fish other than salmon or halibut by set gillnets, drift gillnet, beach seine, fish wheel, long line, fyke net, dip net, jigging gear, spear, lead, or a rod and reel, at any time for subsistence purposes, subject to the following restrictions.

- In Birch Creek, gillnet mesh size may not exceed 3 inches stretch-measure.
- In Beaver Creek downstream from the confluence of Moose Creek, you may use a gillnet with mesh size not to exceed 3-inches stretch-measure from June 15-September 15 for all non-salmon species. You may not target salmon during this time period. However, you may retain salmon taken incidentally to non-salmon directed fisheries.
- From the mouth of Nome Creek downstream to the confluence of Moose Creek you may use only a rod and reel for subsistence fishing.
- During the open weekly fishing periods of the State commercial salmon fishing season, if you are a commercial fisherman, you may not operate more than one type of gear at a time, for commercial, personal use, and subsistence purposes.
- You may not use an aggregate length of set gillnet more than 150 fathoms. Each drift gillnet may not exceed 50 fathoms in length.

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REGULATIONS-Gear Restrictions (continued):

Districts 4, 5, and 6.

You may not set subsistence fishing gear within 200 feet of other operating commercial, personal use, or subsistence fishing gear, except:

- At the site approximately 1 mile upstream from Ruby on the south bank of the Yukon River between ADF&G regulatory markers containing the area known locally as the “Slide”, you may set subsistence fishing gear within 200 feet of other operating or commercial or subsistence fishing gear.
- *District 4* from Old Paradise Village upstream to a point four miles upstream from Anvik, there is no minimum distance requirement between fish wheels.

In Districts 4, 5, and 6 you may not take salmon for subsistence purposes in by drift gillnet, except:

- *Subdistrict 4-A* downstream from the mouth of Stink Creek, you may take chinook salmon by drift gillnets less than 150 feet in length from June 10th through July 14.
- *Subdistrict 4-A* upstream from the mouth of Stink Creek, you may take chinook salmon by drift gillnets less than 150 feet in length from June 10 through July 14, and chum salmon by drift gillnets after August 2.

District 4: If you are a commercial fisherman, you may not subsistence fish for salmon during the State commercial salmon fishing season using gillnets with mesh larger than 6 inches after a date specified by ADF&G emergency order issued between July 10-31.

From September 21-May 15, you may use jigging gear from shore ice.

Yukon River and Tanana River below the confluence of the Wood River, during the commercial salmon fishing season you may use drift gillnets and fish wheels only during the open subsistence salmon fishing periods.

